

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 FBIE-00 USSS-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0643
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01385

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PORG, ASEC, XF
SUBJECT: EPS COVERAGE NEW YORK CITY

REF: (A) USUN 780, (B) USUN332

1. THERE FOLS USUN JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUED EXECUTIVE PROTECTIVE SERVICE (EPS) COVERAGE OF FOUR LOCATIONS PRESENTLY BEING COVERED IN NEW YORK CITY, VIZ. ISRAELI UN MISSION, SYRIAN UN MISSION, PLO OBSERVER OFFICE, LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES OBSERVER OFFICE, AND FOR RESTORATION OF COVERAGE AT CONSULATE GENERAL OF EGYPT. EVENTS IN MIDDLE EAST, ESPECIALLY RECENT ISRAELI INCURSION INTO SOUTH LEBANON CONTINUES TO BE REFLECTED IN LEVEL OF TENSION BETWEEN ARAB AND JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN NEW YORK CITY. SITUATION AUGURS AGAINST ANY RELAXATION OF SECURITY COVERAGE.

2. SINCE SUBMISSION OF LAST JUSTIFICATION, MARCH 3, 1978, JEWISH COMMITTEE OF CONCERN (JCC) HAS CONTINUED ITS ANTI-EGYPTIAN ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK. THERE HAVE BEEN THREE
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ADDITIONAL FIRE BOMBINGS DIRECTED AGAINST EGYPTIAN UN OFFICIALS. ON MARCH 12, HOME OF MOHAMMED NIAZI WAS SUBJECTED TO FIRE BOMBING; ON MARCH 27, CAR OF BAGHAT EL-TAWIL PARKED OUTSIDE HIS HOME WAS FIRE BOMBED, AND ON APRIL 4, RESIDENCE OF EL-TAWIL WAS AGAIN FIRE BOMBED. IN ECCH INSTANCE CREDIT FOR THESE ATTACKS WAS TAKEN BY JCC. DESPITE SERIOUS EFFORTS OF NORTH TARRYTOWN AND PELHAM PO-

LICE AND THE FBI, INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE INCIDENTS REMAIN UNIDENTIFIED AND FREE TO STRIKE AGAIN. OCCURENCES IN THESE SUBURBAN TOWNS ARE SYMPTOMATIC OF VOLATILE POLITICAL CLIMATE EXISTING IN NEW YORK CITY IN CONNECTION WITH MIDDLE EAST ISSUE.

3. ON MARCH 27, FOLLOWING ISRAELI INCURSION INTO SOUTH LEBANON, TRIGGERED BY PLO TERRORIST ATTACK ON ISRAELI CIVILIANS, JCC HELD PRESS CONFERENCE OUTSIDE EGYPTIAN MISSION TO ANNOUNCE THEY WOULD START SYSTEMATIC HARASSMENT OF EGYPTIAN DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK CITY. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT, AND FOR SEVERAL DAYS, EGYPTIAN MISSION AND CONSULATE GENERAL RECEIVED 200-300 HARASSING AND THREATENING CALLS EACH DAY. THESE CALLS CAUSED CONSTERNATION AMONG EGYPTIAN MISSION AND CONSULATE MEMBERS AND AT HEIGHT OF TENSION, EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR NOTIFIED USUN OF HIS CONCERN FOR SAFETY OF HIS STAFF. HE REFERRED TO BOTH THE CALLS AND FIRE BOMBING INCIDENTS DIRECTED AT EGYPTIAN UN EMPLOYEES. EGYPTIAN MISSION AT THAT TIME EXPRESSED "AMAZEMENT" AT ILL-TIMING OF REMOVAL OF EPS COVERAGE AT THEIR CONSULATE GENERAL (MARCH 29 AT 5:00 PM). USUN RECEIVED THIRD-PERSON NOTE, DATED APRIL 10, 1978, FROM EGYPTIAN MISSION REQUESTING RESUMPTION OF EPS COVERAGE AT THEIR CONSULATE GENERAL (COPY DATAFAXED DEPT).

4. USUN HAS BEEN INFORMED BY NEW YORK CITY POLICE THAT
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IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OCCUPATION OF SOUTH LEGANON, ISRAELI AND SYRIAN MISSIONS AND OBSERVER OFFICES OF PLO AND ARAB LEAGUE RECEIVED THREATENING AND HARASSING CALLS IN SUCH NUMBERS IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN AN ACCOUNTING.

5. ON SUNDAY, APRIL 9, A GROUP OF HELMETED JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE (JDL) AND JCC MEMBERS STAGED COUNTER DEMONSTRATION TO ONE CONDUCTED OUTSIDE ISRAELI MISSION BY FEDERATION OF AMERICAN-ARAB ORGANIZATIONS. ONLY PRESENCE OF LARGE CONTINGENT OF NEW YORK CITY POLICE PREVENTED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE.

6. POLITICAL REACTION TO DEVELOPMENTS IN MIDDLE EAST IN NEW YORK CITY IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AT ITS PRESENT LEVEL DURING UPCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON. ISRAELI DELAY IN WITHDRAWING FORCES FROM LEBANON COULD LEAD TO FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING POSSIBLY SEEKING TO CONDEMN ISRAEL FOR ITS CONTINUED PRESENCE IN THAT COUNTRY. SPECIAL SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON FINANCING OF UN PEACEKEEPING FORCES IN SOUTH LEBANON ALSO SCHEDULED FOR APRIL AND DEBATE OVER WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI TROOPS WITH ATTENDANT PRESS COVERAGE MAY WELL

EXACERABTE TENSIONS BETWEEN OPPOSING GROUPS IN NEW YORK CITY

7. USUN STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT PRESENT EPS COVERAGE IN
NEW YORK CITY BE CONTINUED AND COVERAGE RECENTLY WITHDRAWN
FROM CONSULATE GENERAL OF EGYPT BE RESTORED. YOUNG

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